

Dear sir,

I am writing this note to express my opposition to the deregulation of media ownership. The FCC decision that was recently handed down should be reversed; indeed rolled back. Some would argue that in today's media market there are more choices than ever; a hundred channels on cable; the radio dial in big cities crowded. This view is indiscriminate. More bandwidth does not mean more choice. More bandwidth, paradoxically, has yielded only craven commercialism. These vast numbers of channels produce very little of worth. TV and radio are now a nightmare of the 70's -- the movie Network -- made real. How can the FCC feel that it is serving the public good when even the most powerful media outlets spurn their duty to the public by offering in their premiere hours, stupid (there is no other word for it even Harvard educated network executives regard it as so) low budget reality shows and self commercial info-tainment (permitting us as a civilization to prowl about in Michael Jackson's closet)? This is the triumph of crass greed pandering to a mob.

Such it is on TV so it is on radio. The erosion of all that is interesting and cultural and challenging has been long in coming but now we are nearly at a point where classical music is pushed off the dial, Jazz dead, regional cultural heritage sacrificed (lost is the strange and wonderful; polka, big band, gospel, bluegrass). Instead of helping it become feasible for a small station with a mission to burn its way into our hearts the FCC has had a firesale. What is the FCC for if not to protect our culture? So here we are; soon all the radio media will be held by a handful of companies where the DJ's are robots and the songs are all the same. I am sure that this will increase the GDP of the country by 0.0000001% but I vouchsafe that the US will be a very dull place. A sick place.

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